Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USICA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

USINT HAVANA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMCONSUL BUKAVU

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

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USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY PRAIA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING, JUNE 6, 1978

FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL, UNCORRECTED EXCERPT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING. IF NECESSARY OFFICIAL VERSION WILL FOLLOW

Q: HAS THE DELEGATION HEADED BY UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM RETURNED TO WASHINGTON?

DO YOU KNOW WHEN THEY ARE DUE BACK?

A: NO, BUT I'LL BE GLAD TO GET IT FOR YOU.

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Q: CAN YOU TELL US ANYTHING ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT'S APPRAISAL OF THAT MEETING?

A: THE TALKS WERE PROLONGED AND SUBSTANTIVE. AS THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE REVEALS, AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON RECOMMENDATIONS THAT WILL BE FURTHER DISCUSSED HERE AND IN OTHER CAPITALS. OBVIOUSLY, THE QUESTION OF ASSISTANCE, AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE IN PARTICULAR, TO ZAIRE WAS DISCUSSED. THE ISSUE OF ECONOMIC AND MANAGEMENT REFORM PREDATES THE SECOND INVASION OF SHABA. FOR EXAMPLE, FINANCIAL REFORM MEASURES WERE PART OF THE FIRST TWO IMF AGREEMENTS AND A PART OF CONTINUING IMF PLANS TO IMPROVE FOREIGN EXCHANGE MANAGEMENT. THE MOBUTU PLAN WHICH GROUPS A NUMBER OF THESE IDEAS INTO A SINGLE PACKAGE IS GOING TO BE THE OBJECT OF A DETAILED DISCUSSION NEXT WEEK AT THE MEETING IN BRUSSELS THAT WE ALREADY MENTIONED, AND IN WHICH ZAIRE IS ALSO GOING TO PARTICIPATE.

IN THE PARIS MEETING, I.E., YESTERDAY, NO COMMITMENTS WERE MADE FOR ADDITIONAL AID FOR ZAIRE AS THIS IS GOING TO BE THE FOCUS OF THE BRUSSELS MEETING. WE ANTICIPATE THAT ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL MEETINGS WILL BE REQUIRED LATER THIS SUMMER TO INSURE THAT CLOSE COORDINATION CONTINUES. IT IS ALSO CLEAR TO US THAT SUBSTANTIAL REFORM MUST TAKE PLACE IF ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE IS TO BE EFFECTIVE. THUS, WE FORESEE THAT ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE WILL BE CONDITIONED UPON ACCEPTANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF

MANAGEMENT AND OTHER REFORMS.

THERE ARE, OBVIOUSLY, CLOSE LINKAGES BETWEEN ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS IN ZAIRE. ALL OF THESE WERE DISCUSSED IN PARIS AND WILL BE TAKEN UP AGAIN IN BRUSSELS.

AS THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE INDICATES, THE SUBJECT OF AN INTER-AFRICAN DEFENSE FORCE WAS ADDRESSED DURING THE MEETING, UNCLASSIFIED

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AND A USEFUL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ENSUED. WE MADE NO COMMITMENTS IN REGARD TO A BROADER AFRICAN SECURITY FORCE. THE AMERICAN DELEGATION'S INSTRUCTIONS DEALT ONLY WITH THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS IN ZAIRE. IN THIS CONTEXT, THE TECHNICAL QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE DEPLOYMENT OF THE SHABA FORCE WERE DISCUSSED, IN SO FAR AS THE AIRLIFT GOES, TO MAKE A LOGICAL LEAP AND THEN WE CAN GO TO QUESTIONS.

Q: YOU SAY IN HERE, "WE MADE NO COMMITMENTS REGARDING A BROADER AFRICAN SECURITY FORCE." WHAT COMMITMENTS WERE MADE REGARDING A NARROWER FORCE TO DEAL WITH SHABA PROVINCE?

A: NONE, OTHER THAN WHAT WE NOW, YOU SEE US UNDERTAKING. YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT SECURITY MATTERS, WHICH IS THE SHUTTLING OF AFRICAN TROOPS IN THERE AND THE FRENCH TROOPS OUT.

Q: WHAT ABOUT SUPPLYING EQUIPMENT AND MATERIEL?

A: I WILL TAKE THE QUESTION SPECIFICALLY, DID WE MAKE ANY NEW UNDERTAKINGS ON THE QUESTION OF SUPPLY OR INVOLVEMENT IN SECURITY ASSISTANCE.

Q: I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S RELATED TO THAT IN YOUR PERCEPTION, BUT CAN YOU TELL US ANYTHING ABOUT THE U.S. ROLE WHICH WAS REPORTED THIS MORNING IN SENEGAL AND GABON?

A: I CAN CONFIRM THAT BOTH SENEGAL AND GABON HAVE ASKED OUR ASSISTANCE IN BRINGING FORCES INTO ZAIRE.

Q: I BELIEVE THE REPORT THIS MORNING SAID THERE WERE UNCLASSIFIED

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ALREADY AMERICANS ON THE GROUND THERE.

A: I BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE, OR SOON WILL HAVE, GROUND PARTIES AVAILABLE THERE. I'M NOT SURE THAT THEY ARE

ACTUALLY THERE. I WOULD SIMPLY BE GLAD TO TAKE THAT.

Q: ARE YOU SAYING THAT THESE ARE ONLY AIR FORCE TECHNICAL PEOPLE AND THAT THESE ARE NOT POLITICAL CONTACT PEOPLE?

A: IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THAT IS CORRECT, THAT THESE ARE GROUND SUPPORT PEOPLE.

Q: HOW MANY AFRICAN TROOPS ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT WITH THESE SENEGALESE AND GABON PEOPLE?

A: ONE, I DON'T KNOW; TWO, I'M NOT GOING TO BE IN A POSITION TO GIVE THOSE FIGURES.

Q: ARE THERE ANY OTHER COUNTRIES IN ADDITION TO MOROCCO, SENEGAL, AND GABON THAT WE EXPECT TO PROVIDE FERRYING SERVICES FOR, ANY OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES?

A: I'VE SEEN OTHER COUNTRIES DISCUSSED. THOSE ARE THE ONLY THREE THAT I'M AWARE OF AT THE TIME THAT WE HAVE.

Q: IS IT THE POLICY OF THE ADMINISTRATION NOT TO SUPPORT AN INTER-AFRICAN SECURITY FORCE UNLESS IT IS ORGANIZED AND ADMINISTERED BY THE OAU?

A: ON THE QUESTION OF THIS, WE HAD A GOOD EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THAT SUBJECT, AND AS THE COMMUNIQUE NOTED, I BELIEVE, WHAT WAS DISCUSSED THERE IS GOING TO BE DISCUSSED FURTHER AT HOME BY THE VARIOUS GOVERNMENTS AND I'M SURE THAT THERE WILL BE FURTHER DISCUSSION HERE WHEN THE MISSION REPORTS BACK HERE. I'M IN NO POSITION TO UNCLASSIFIED

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SPECULATE ON WHAT WE MIGHT OR MIGHT NOT DO BEYOND THAT, OR WHAT A PREFERRED APPROACH MIGHT BE. I CAN ONLY REEMPHASIZE, ONE, THAT WE MADE NO COMMITMENTS IN THAT RESPECT, AND SECOND, THAT OUR INSTRUCTIONS REALLY ONLY

DEALT WITH THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS IN ZAIRE.

Q: LET ME FOLLOW UP ON THAT, "NO COMMITMENTS IN THAT RESPECT," DID THE SENIOR OFFICIAL WHO TALKED TO AMERICAN NEWSMEN IN PARIS, WAS HE AWARE OF THOSE INSTRUCTIONS OR LACK OF INSTRUCTIONS?

A: ON COMMITTING TO SOMETHING OUTSIDE OF ZAIRE? YES.

Q: ON SAYING THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD NOT SUPPORT AN INTER-AFRICAN SECURITY FORCE UNLESS IT WAS ORGANIZED AND ADMINISTERED BY THE OAU. IS THAT FREE-LANCING?

A: I ABSOLUTELY DON'T KNOW WHO THAT WAS. AS A MATTER OF FACT, I EVEN ASKED. I HAVE NO IDEA.

Q: WHO IS PAYING FOR THE AMERICAN AIRLIFT?

A: I'LL TAKE IT.

Q: WHO IS PAYING FOR THE MAINTENANCE --

Q: AND ALSO WHO PAYS FOR THE AIRLIFT OF THE FRENCH AND BELGIAN TROOPS? DO THE FRENCH AND BELGIANS PAY FOR THIS?

A: I BELIEVE THAT WE ARE PAYING FOR IT.

Q: OUT OF WHAT FUNDS? UNCLASSIFIED

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A: I WILL HAVE TO TAKE THAT QUESTION, THOUGH QUITE FRANKLY, THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION FOR DEFENSE.

Q: WHO IS PAYING FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THOSE TROOPS IN SHABA, I MEAN THE MOROCCANS, GABONESE AND SENEGALESE TROOPS? WHO IS PAYING, IF WE ARE NOT. IS THERE SOME KIND OF COMMON FUND OR SOMETHING?

A: I DON'T KNOW OF A COMMON FUND. I'LL BE GLAD TO TAKE THE DIRECT QUESTION, ARE WE PAYING FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THOSE TROOPS?

Q: AND THE EXTENT OF THE U.S. INVOLVEMENT IS SIMPLY FERRY-ING THEM FROM THESE TWO CUNTRIES TO SHABA?

A: YES. JUST EXACTLY WHERE THEY ARE TOUCHING DOWN, I DON'T KNOW AND I'M NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU SORTEE REPORTS.

Q: FOR HOW LONG ARE THESE PEOPLE GOING TO STAY THERE ON THE GROUND?

A: I HAVE NO IDEA.

Q: IN YOUR EARLIER STATEMENT YOU MENTIONED THAT IT WAS AGREED IN PARIS THAT SUBSTANTIAL REFORM IS REQUIRED IN ZAIRE. IS "SUBSTANTIAL REFORM" A EUPHEMISM FOR ELIMINATION OF CORRUPTION?

A: "SUBSTANTIAL REFORM" HAS TO DO WITH THE REFORMS OF THE ECONOMIC SYSTEM IN ZAIRE AND CERTAIN GOVERNMENTAL REFORMS WHICH WE THINK ARE NECESSARY IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD. I AM NOT GOING TO TAKE THE EUPHEMISM.

Q: DOES IT INCLUDE THE ELIMINATION OF WIDESPREAD CORRUP-

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TION?

A: I DO NOT KNOW THAT THAT IS A SPECIFIED REFORM. I THINK THAT THERE ARE THINGS HAVING TO DO WITH BANKING AND OTHER ECONOMIC PRACTICES WHICH ARE GOING TO BE SUGGESTED.

Q: BECAUSE IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT FILED BY THE STATE

DEPARTMENT LAST YEAR CERTAINLY -- AND I THINK THIS YEAR -- ONE OF THE ABUSES OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ZAIRE WAS WIDESPREAD CORRUPTION

A: I DON'T KNOW. I'LL TAKE THE QUESTION. YOU ASKED ME A SERIOUS QUESTION: IS ONE OF THE THINGS THAT'S BEING PLUGGED PUBLICLY ON THIS AS A REFORM GOING TO BE WHAT YOU CALL THE ELIMINATION OF WIDESPREAD CORRUPTION.

Q: HODDING, IS ANOTHER OF THE THINGS THAT'S BEING PLUGGED THE INTRODUCTION OF EXPERTS FROM OECD COUNTRIES, THAT IS

EUROPEAN OR AMERICAN PERSONNEL TO RUN BANKS AND BUSINESSES?

A: IT MAY BE A LITTLE EARLY ON THAT, BUT I'LL SEE. I MEAN IT MAY BE A LITTLE EARLY FOR ME TO BE ABLE TO GET AN EXACT ANSWER ON THAT. YOU'RE ASKING ABOUT THE INTRODUCTION OF FINANCIAL OR OTHER EXPERTS FROM EUROPEAN COUNTRIES TO HELP IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE REFORMS?

Q: THAT'S BEEN REPORTED AS A EUROPEAN IDEA. I JUST WONDERED IF IT WAS AN AMERICAN IDEA TOO.

A: I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN GET AN ANSWER, BUT I'LL TAKE THE QUESTION.
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Q: DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY AMERICAN PLANES, AIR FORCE PLANES, WERE INVOLVED IN THE MOROCCAN AIRLIFT?

A: NO. ON THAT KIND OF THING, I WANT TO REPEAT MYSELF, THAT KIND OF INFORMATION IS GOING TO HAVE TO COME FROM DEFENSE.

Q: HAS THE UNITED STATES, EITHER IN THESE PARIS TALKS OR OTHER FOUR, OR IN BILATERAL TALKS WITH ZAIRE PUT ANY PRESSURE ON THE MOBUTU GOVERNMENT TO HOLD ELECTIONS?

A: I DON'T KNOW THAT THAT QUESTION HAS ARISEN.

Q: IF IT HASN'T, WHY HASN'T IT?

A: I DON'T KNOW. IF IT HASN'T, WHY SHOULD IT? I MEAN THAT'S A QUESTION I DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER. I MEAN, SOME-BODY'S GOT TO MAKE A CASE TO ME. THAT WOULD BE ONE OF THOSE PROBLEMS WE HAVE, OBVIOUSLY, RAISED WITH ANY NUMBER OF GOVERNMENTS OVER ANY NUMBER OF TIMES, I BELIEVE, IN CERTAIN FORMS AND CERTAIN INSTITUTIONS OF GOVERNMENT; BUT YOU'RE ASKING ME IN THIS SPECIFIC CASE. I DON'T KNOW.

Q: HAVE YOU CANVASSED THE MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY AT THIS POINT TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY WOULD SUPPORT OR OBJECT TO THIS OPERATION?

A: I KNOW THAT WE HAVE HAD DIPLOMATIC CONVERSATIONS WITH A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES IN AFRICA. I DO NOT KNOW THAT THERE HAS BEEN A SYSTEMATIC, COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY QUESTION.

Q: ARE YOU INFORMED AS YET AS TO WHETHER THIS QUESTION WILL BE BROUGHT UP AT THE MEETING OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY? IT'S MY UNDERSTANDING THAT IT WILL BE.

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Q: UNDER WHAT AUTHORITY DOES THE UNITED STATES PROCEED WITH EXPANDING ITS ROLE IN AFRICA WITH THIS WIDENED AIR-LIFT?

A: I THINK WE HAVE ALREADY SAID THAT WE HAVE CONSULTED, IN ANY CASE, WITH CONGRESS OR CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS ON THIS WHOLE QUESTION. I AM NOT AWARE OF A STATUTORY PROHIBITION ON THIS PARTICULAR ROLE.

Q: HAS THE ADMINISTRATION REPORTED THE USE OF MILITARY AIRCRAFT AND PERSONNEL UNDER THE WAR POWERS ACT TO CONGRESS, AND IF NOT, DOES IT INTEND TO DO SO?

A: I HAVE NO IDEA. ARE YOU SUGGESTING IT IS REQUIRED UNDER THE WAR POWERS ACT.

 $\mathbf{Q} \text{: I THINK IT MIGHT BE. } \mathbf{I} \text{ HAVEN'T GOT IT BEFORE ME.}$

Q: WOULD YOU BE ABLE TO TELL US WHAT CONNECTION IF ANY IS THERE BETWEEN THE FACT WHO IS GOING TO UNDERTAKE THE FINANCIAL BACKING OF THE AFRICAN FORCE IN ZAIRE? WHAT SORT OF PROPORTION? WHY IRAN AND SAUDI ARABIA?

A: BECAUSE THEY ALREADY HAVE A FINANCIAL STAKE IN ZAIRE WHICH PREDATES SHABA TWO.

THE MINISTER WAS IN NEW YORK YESTERDAY ATTENDING THE SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT WHICH WAS THE PRIMARY AIM

OF HIS VISIT TO THE COUNTRY, AS WE UNDERSTAND IT.

AT HIS REQUEST, THE MINISTER'S, A MEETING WITH SECRETARY VANCE WAS ARRANGED, AS YOU KNOW, THIS MORNING.

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IN ADDITION, DURING HIS STAY HERE IN WASHINGTON, MR. FISCHER WILL MEET WITH THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE AS WELL AS THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

Q: DID THE SECRETARY RAISE WITH HIM (MR. FISCHER) THE ROLE OF EAST GERMANY IN TRAINING THE INVADERS FROM ANGOLA?

A: I DON'T HAVE AN INDICATION OF THAT.

Q: DID THE GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER, BY ANY CHANCE, TELL THE SECRETARY THAT THERE WERE NO CUBANS IN ETHIOPIA?

A: I HEARD REPORTS OF THAT BEING SAID PUBLICLY. I AM NOT REALLY AWARE. LET ME SAY IF HE DID SAY IT, WE WOULD REITERATE WHAT THE CUBANS HAVE SAID, WHICH IS THAT THEY ARE PRESENT IN ETHIOPIA IN NUMBERS.

Q: ACCORDING TO A DISPATCH OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AS MONITORED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, THE SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTER, SPEAKING IN PARLIAMENT YESTERDAY, NOTED THAT VICE PRESIDENT WALTER MONDALE HAD LAST YEAR ADVOCATED ONE MAN ONE RULE FOR SOUTH AFRICA, BUT THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THAT SINCE THEN EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO MOVE AWAY FROM WHAT MR. BOTHA, THE FOREIGN MINISTER, TERMED THIS EXTREMIST STATEMENT. AND THEN QUOTING FROM THIS OFFICIAL DISPATCH, BOTHA SAID, "WE WELCOME THESE EFFORTS, BUT WE ARE STILL AWAITING A CLEAR EXPRESSION THAT THE UNITED STATES IS NOT SEEKING A SOLUTION IN SOUTH AFRICA OF BLACK MAJORITY RULE IN ONE CONSTITUTIONAL ENTITY."

MY QUESTION IS, WHAT IS THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT POLICY ON THIS QUESTION WHICH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT IS RAISING?

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A: WHAT IS HAS BEEN FOR A YEAR AND FIVE MONTHS, AS MIGHT BOTHER MR. BOTHA TO BE CALLED "BOTHA." HE KNOWS VERY WELL WHAT IT IS, AND THAT IS TWO-FOLD. FIRST, THAT THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT DISCRIMINATION AS A FORM THAT SOUTH AFRICANS REFER TO AS PETTY APARTHEID SHOULD BE

ABOLISHED QUICKLY.

ALONG THE SAME LINES THAT PICK BOTHA IN A SPEECH TO THE UNITED NATIONS TWO YEARS AGO PROMISED QUICKLY.

SECOND, THAT A MOVE SHOULD BE TAKEN TOWARD FULL PARTICIPATION BY ALL THE CITIZENS OF SOUTH AFRICA IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS OF THAT COUNTRY. THE FORM OF THAT PARTICIPATION, THE FORM OF THAT GOVERNMENT, THE FORM OF THE RELATIONSHIP, IS NOT FOR THE UNITED STATES TO DICTATE.

WE HAVE SAID THAT CONSISTENTLY NOW FOR 17 MONTHS, WHICH THE FOREIGN MINISTER KNOWS AS WELL AS ANYBODY IN THIS

COUNTRY, AND THAT HASN'T CHANGED. VANCE

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